Class CS71

Book .V274

Copyright No. 1888

copy 2

COPYRIGHT DEPOSIT.

NIMAND ZONDER OMNIBUS EFFULGIOR

1
195
1940

The Van Rensselaers of the MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, COPYRIGHT DEC 8 1888 WASHINGTON.

CS71

Copyright in 1888, By May King Van Rensselaer, N. Y.

THE VAN RENSSELAERS

OF THE

MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK.

THE VAN RENSSELAERS OF THE MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK, have for over two hundred years held an important position in the history of America. Coming here, as they did, as founders of a colony, who acknowledged no superior power on this side of the ocean, they were actually sovereigns on their own domains. Before coming to America, the Van Rensselaers were people of importance in Holland, respected, and honoured by their countrymen; they held many positions of trust, and their name figures constantly as Burgomasters, Councillors, Treasurers, etc., in many of the important towns of their native country. The picture of Jan Van Rensselaer, which still hangs in the Orphan Asylum at Nykerk, repre-

sents him as a Jonkheer or Nobleman in the distinguishing dress of his class. Over the heads of the Regents in this picture, hang small shields on which are displayed their coats of arms, making it perfectly easy to identify Jonkheer Van Rensselaer, as these arms are identical with those borne by the family at the present day. An interesting tradition with regard to these arms exists, which however rests on no reliable foundation. It is said that on some festive occasion, a grand illumination was displayed in Holland. The Van Rensselaer of that day ordered large iron baskets (which represented his crest) to be filled with inflammable materials, and placed on the gate posts, house tops, and every prominent position of both city and country residences. This was done with such brilliant effect, as to call forth special commendation from the Prince of Orange who, according to the custom of the times, when favours were esteemed and given instead of money, and the highest one was an augmentation of any thing pertaining to the coat of arms, begged Van Rensselaer to henceforward adopt as his motto "Omnibus Effulgeo" or ("I outshine all,") instead of the Dutch motto referring to the cross on the shield of "Nieman Zonder," or ("No man without a cross)." The motto has been corrupted, and is usually written "Omnibus Effulgior," but it has not been generally used by the Van Rensselaer family of late years, as being too arrogant for their simple tastes.

The following extracts from a letter written by Eugene Schuyler (author of History of Russia, etc.), were published in The Albany Argus, Sept. 21st, 1879:

"I went to Amersfoort, to Nykerk, and to several other towns in Guelderland.

At Amersfoort, there is a Table in the Church of St. Joris or St. George on which is mentioned Harmanus Van Rensselaer, as one of its Regents in 1639. Dr. is prefixed to his name which may mean Doctor of Laws, Divinity, or Medicine. There is also a tomb of a Captain Van Rensselaer who died from a wound received at the battle of Nieuport. This is covered by the wood flooring, and is not visible.

In the Orphan Aslyum at Nykerk, there is a very fine picture of its first Regents, 1638. The picture is painted by Breecker in 1645. There are two noblemen in this picture Jan or Johannes Van Rensselaer and Nicholas Van Delen; one of the four others is Ryckert Van Twiller, the father of Walter Van Twiller, who married the sister of Kiliaen the first Patroon. There are two other Van Rensselaers named, among the later Regents--Richard in 1753, and Jeremias in 1803.

The original Manor of the family from which the Van Rensselaers took their name is still called Rensselaer, and is about three miles southeast of Nykerk.

It was originally a Reddergoed, the possession of which conferred nobility. The last member of the family who bore the name was Jeremias Van Rensselaer who died in Nykerk, April 11th, 1819. He had married Julie Duval, and had no children, and in his will, he states that he had no heirs except the Van Rensselaer family then living in America.

The estate of Rensselaerswyck is now only a farm,

all the old buildings have lately been taken down—they were covered with gables, and weathercocks of the arms and crest of the family, but all have now disappeared. There is scarcely a church in Guelderland that did not have somewhere the Van Rensselaer arms on the tombstones, either alone or quartered with others. The exact coat of arms is a white or silver cross, on a red ground. The crest is a white basket (not castle), with yellow flames, above a closed, or knight's helmet.

* * * * * *

Kiliaen Van Rensselaer,* the founder of the colony of Rensselaerswyck in America, was a man of character and of substance. He was a merchant of Amsterdam, wealthy, and of high consideration, at a time when the merchants of Holland had become, like those of Italy, the princes of the land. He was a proprietor of large estates, and a director in the Dutch West India Company, which company having obtained a footing in America, instituted a College of nine Commissioners in 1629, to take the superior direction and charge of the affairs of New Netherland.

Kiliaen Van Rensselaer was a member of this College. A liberal charter of privileges to Patroons was obtained from the company, which provided for founding a landed and baronial aristocracy, for the provinces of the Dutch in the New World.

Early in 1630, Kiliaen Van Rensselaer sent an agent from Holland, to make his first purchase of land, from

*This sketch was compiled from O'Callaghan's History of the New Netherlands, and from the Hon. D. D. Barnard's Memorial Address on the last Patroon, delivered before the Albany Institute, 1839.

the Indian owners, which purchase was sanctioned by the authorities of the Company at New Amsterdam, "who signed the instrument and sealed it with the seal of the New Netherlands in red wax." Other purchases were made for him up to the year 1637, when his full complement of land having been made up, viz: a tract of 24 miles in breadth by 48 miles in length containing over 700,000 acres, which now compose the counties of Albany, Rensselaer, and part of Columbia, he himself came to America to take charge of his colony. All his colonists, numbering one hundred and fifty adult souls, were sent out at his own cost; and as the charter required, the colony was planted within four years, from the completion of his purchases.

The power of Patroon, (the title given by the West India Charter to these Proprietors), was analogous to that of the old feudal barons, only acknowledging the States-General of Holland as their superiors. The Patroon maintained a high military and judicial authority, had his own fortresses, planted with his own cannon, (the original still in the possession of the Manor House family) manned with his own soldiers, with his own flag waving over them. The courts of the colony were his own courts, where the gravest questions and the highest crimes were cognizable; but with appeals in the more important cases. Justice was administered in his own name. The colonists were his immediate subjects, and took the oath of fealty and allegiance to him.

The position of the colony was one of great delicacy

and danger, being surrounded by warlike tribes of savages; but happily the Patroons of that period, and their Directors, by a strict observance of the laws of justice, and by maintaining a guarded conduct towards them, escaped those wars and conflicts, so common among the infant colonies of the country. But with the authorities at New Amsterdam, there were constant collisions; and on one occasion it was so sharp, that Gov. Petrus Stuyvesant sent up an armed expedition to invade the Colony of Rensselaerswyck; but fortunately his expedition was unsuccessful, and happily as bloodless as it was bootless.

It is alleged that Kiliaen Van Rensselaer visited his Colony in person in 1637. If he ever did come, his stay in this country was not long. An order written to Arendt Van Corlear, (his Commissary-General and Colonial-Secretary,) with regard to the arrangement of some of his affairs in the Colonie of Rensselaerswyck, was signed in Amsterdam, September 10th, 1643, by Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, and sealed with his own and the Colonie's seal. This order was sent to New Netherland in the Patroon's ship "THE ARMS OF RENSSELAERSWYCK," which was despatched with an assorted invoice of merchandise, valued at twelve thousand eight hundred and seventy guilders, (12,870 guilders) and was intended for the use of his Colony.

In 1664 great changes took place; the English conquered the province which had hitherto belonged to the Dutch, and the Colony of Rensselaerswyck fell, with that of New Amsterdam; but the English Governors confirmed the claims and privileges of Rens-

selaerswyck when the Provinces passed under British rule.

In 1685, the Dutch Colony of Rensselaerswyck was converted and created into a regular lordship or manor, with all the privileges belonging to an English estate and jurisdiction of the manorial kind. To the LORD OF THE MANOR Kiliaen the 5th Patroon, was expressly given authority to administer justice within his domain "in both kinds, in his own court-leet and court baron" Other large privileges were conferred on him; and he had the right with the freeholders and inhabitants of the Manor, to a separate representation in the Colonial Assembly. All these rights continued unimpaired down to the time of the war of the Revolution.

The first Patroon, Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, was twice married, and had nine children—five sons and four daughters—all of whom survived him, and according to the laws of Holland, shared equally his estates. He died in 1646. His first wife was Hellegonda Van Bylet, by whom he had one son Johannes, who married his cousin Elizabeth Van Twiller.

Johannes Van Rensselaer was the 2d Patroon, and died young leavng one son Kiliaen, and one daughter.

During the non-age of Kiliaen, the estate in America was managed by his uncle, Jan Baptist Van Rensselaer, who was made "Director of the Estate." Young Kiliaen married his cousin Anna Van Rensselaer, and died in 1687, at Watervliet, New York, without children. This Anna remarried William Nichol.

Jan Baptist Van Rensselaer, the son of the first

Patroon by his second wife Anna Van Wely, married his cousin Susan Van Wely. He was for many years Director of the Manor of Rensselaerswyck, and finally returned to Holland about 1656, where he became one of the leading merchants of Amsterdam, and died in 1678.

Jeremias Van Rensselaer, the third son of Kiliaen the first Patroon, succeeded his brother Jan Baptist as Director of the Colonie in 1658, and for sixteen years administered its affairs with great prudence and discretion. He was much respected by the French, and wielded an influence over the Indians which was only surpassed by that of Van Corlear. On account of the inaccuracies of the boundaries, etc., considerable difficulties were experienced in obtaining a patent for the Manor from the Duke of York, upon the change of Government from the Dutch to the English rule. To obviate the trouble, some persons of influence advised Jeremias, the "Director," to take out a Patent in his own name, he being qualified to hold real estate, having become a British subject. To his great honour, it is recorded that he rejected the advice, saying: "He was only co-heir, and could not thus defraud his sisters and brothers."

In 1664, Jeremias Van Rensselaer was elected Speaker of the Representative Assembly of the Province. The first question which engaged the attention of this Assembly, was that of the Presidency. New Amsterdam claimed the honour as the Capital, and Rensselaerswyck as the oldest colonie. The right of the latter was admitted, and the

Hon. Jeremias Van Rensselaer took the chair, under protest.

He was a man of great industry, and communicated to Holland an account of various occurrences in this country under the name of "The New Netherland Mercury." His correspondence from 1656 to his death, still in good preservation, affords a valuable and interesting commentary on private and public affairs, and contains a relation of facts and incidents which otherwise would be irreparably lost.

He died on the 12th October, 1674, and was followed to the grave by a large concourse of mourners.

Nicolaus Van Rensselaer, the eighth child of Kiliaen the 1st Patroon, was a clergyman of the Dutch Reformed Church. On being introduced to Charles II, then in exile at Brussels, he prophesied the restoration of the Monarch to the throne of England, which circumstance afterwards obtained for him a cordial reception at the Court of St. James, when he visited London as Chaplain to the Dutch Embassy. In acknowledgment of the truth of the prediction, the King presented him with a snuff-box, (This royal relic is now in the possession of the Manor House Van Rensselaer family at Albany.)

Upon coming to America, the Dutch Church looked upon him with suspicion, fearing he was Papist, as one having been ordained in England as Presbyter by Bishop Salisbury, and declared he had nothing to do with their Church, without a certificate from their classis.

Dr. Rensselaer produced his papers and certificates —that of his ordination as deacon and as Presbyter by the Bishop of Salisbury ; His Majesty's allowance of him under his Signet to be a Minister, and to preach to the Dutch Congregation at Westminister; two certificates of his being Chaplain to the Ambassador Extraordinary from the States of Holland, and also of having officiated in a church in London as Lecturer ; and the Duke of York's recommendation of him to the present Governor in this country.

The Governor called a council to decide the matter, asking the opposing Ministers, why Dr. Van Rensselaer should not be considered capable of administering the sacraments of the Church, etc., etc, The Ministers recalled their previous views and brought in a paper "amended, with all Submission."

Rev. Nicolaus Van Rensselaer married Alida Schuyler, daughter of Philip (Pieterse) Schuyler. He died in 1678 without children, and his widow married Robert Livingston, first Proprietor of Livingston Manor.

Ryckert, the youngest son of Kiliaen the 1st Patroon, was for many years one of the magistrates of Albany, and also Director of the Colonie after the death of his brother Jeremias. He married in Holland Anna Van Beaumont.

He owned the Bowerie called "The Flatts," four miles north of Albany, which on his return to Holland in 1670, he sold to Philip Schuyler. He was at one time Treasurer and also Burgomaster of Vianen, and

died about 1695, having five sons and five daughters, only one son and three daughters being married.

Three of the daughters of the first Kiliaen died unmarried. These were Maria, Hellegonda and Eleanora, Susanna, the fourth daughter, married Jan de la Court, and lived and died in Holland. The memory of Anna Van Wely, Kiliaen Van Rensselaer's second wife, and the mother of many of his children, has been lately honoured in Holland on the occasion of the bi-centennial of the invention of the Thimble. This celebration took place in 1884, at Amsterdam, with much formality. The humble, but useful little article was first made by a goldsmith named Nicholas Van Benschoten, who presented the first one to Madam Van Rensselaer in 1684, begging her "to accept this new covering for the protection of her diligent finger as a token of his esteem." It was not till 1695 that thimbles were introduced into England, by a Dutchman named John Lofting.

On the death of Jeremias Van Rensselaer, in 1674, the affairs of the Colonie of Rensselaerswyck were administered conjointly, during the minority of Kiliaen (then 12 years of age) by Dominie Nicolaus Van Rensselaer, Madame Maria Van Rensselaer, and Stephanus Van Cortlandt. Nicolaus had the Directorship of the Colonie, Madame Van Rensselaer was the Treasurer, and Stephanus Van Cortlandt had the charge of the books. Dominie Nicolaus dying in 1678, the chief management of the Minor's affairs devolved on his mother and uncle. Madame Maria Van Rensselaer was the daughter of Oloff Van Cortlandt and

Ann Lockermans, and married Jeremias Van Rensselaer in 1662. She died in 1689, fifteen years after his death, leaving three sons, Kiliaen, Johannes, and Hendrick, and two daughters, Anna and Maria. Johannes died unmarried. From these two brothers, Kiliaen and Hendrick, have sprung all the descendants of the Van Rensselaer name in this country.

The heirs of the first Patroon held his estate in common until 1695, nearly fifty years after his death. At that time all his children, except Rykert and his daughter Eleonora, were dead. In 1695, negotiations were entered into with Kiliaen of Albany, (son of Jeremias, deceased), and the heirs in Holland, for a settlement of their grandfather's estate. On the 25th of Nov., 1695, the settlement was completed and the legal paper executed. The Hollander attorney for Rykert, Eleonora, and for the children of Susanna, deceased, released to the American for himself, and as attorney for his brothers Johannes and Hendrick, and for his sisters Anna and Maria, all the Manor of Rensselaerswyck "containing 700,000 acres of tillable land," all the Claverack tract of 60,000 acres except three farms, and all the personal property except "700 pieces of eight (or $700)." The American released to the Hollanders all the estate real, personal, and contingent in Holland, of which the Crailo estate, and a tract of land in Guelderland, formed a part.

Four of the nine children of the 1st Patroon had died without heirs; his widow was also dead; consequently the estate was divided into five parts; one for the family in America, and the other four for the heirs

in Holland. Measuring the whole estate by our conception of the value of that in America, we should be likely to form an erroneous judgment as to its amount. Land here at that time was very cheap, hundreds of acres could be bought from the Indians for trinkets. The whole estate measured by the sum which the Hollanders stipulated to pay to Eleonora Van Rensselaer ($800) was not large in the modern sense, but 40 cents at that time were equal to several gold dollars now.

In 1704, a charter from Queen Anne confirmed the estate to Kiliaen, the eldest son of Jeremias (third son of the original Patroon, the oldest having died without issue). The estate came to him by inheritance, according to the canons of descent established by the law of England.

Kiliaen was the first Lord of the Manor of Rensselaerswyck, which he represented in the Provincial Assembly from 1691 to 1703, when he was called to the Council.

In 1704, he conveyed the lower Manor Claverack, with the Crailo estate at Greenbush, to his younger brother Hendrick, as his share of his grandfather's estate. He married his cousin, Maria Van Cortlandt, in 1701, by whom he had six sons and four daughters.

His eldest son Jeremias, born 1705, died unmarried in 1745. He had survived his father, and was consequently the 5th Patroon. His brother Stephen (Kiliaen's second son) became the 6th Patroon. This Stephen was born in 1707, and married, in 1729. Elizabeth Groesbeck. He died in 1747, leaving a daughter,

Elizabeth, married to General Abraham Ten Broeck ; and one son Stephen, who being a minor at his father's death, was left under the guardianship of his brother-in-law General Ten Broeck, who managed his affairs with much judgment.

Abraham Ten Broeck was descended from one of the old families of the Colony of New York. His father was for many years Recorder, and then Mayor of Albany. In 1753, he married the only sister of the Patroon Stephen IId. He was called early into public life, and was for many years a member of the Assembly under the Colonial Government, and at the commencement of the American War, was made Colonel of the Militia, Member of the Provincial Congress of 1775, delegate to the State Convention in 1776, of which he was made President. Early in the contest, he was made Brigadier-General of the militia, and rendered memorable service in the campaign of 1777. He was a member of the State Senate, Mayor of the city, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and President of the Bank of Albany. His virtues in private life equalled the excellence of his public character. He died January 19th, 1810.

The second Stephen Van Rensselaer, born 1742, married in January, 1764, Catherine Livingston, daughter of Philip Livingston (Signer of the Declaration of Independence), and Christiana Ten Broeck. He built the present Manor House, which was completed in 1765, and which he was spared to enjoy only four years, as he died of consumption in 1769, leaving two sons and one daughter—Stephen, Philip, and Elizabeth.

Philip, the second son, born 1766, married in 1787, Anne de Peyster Van Cortlandt, daughter of General Philip Van Cortlandt. They had no issue. He was Mayor of the city of Albany longer than any other Mayor before or since, having served seventeen years in that office. He was also President of the Bank of Albany, and was a public man holding many positions. He died in 1824,

His sister, Elizabeth Van Rensselaer, born 1768, married in 1787, John Bradstreet Schuyler, son of General Philip Schuyler and Catherine Van Rensselaer, by whom she had one son, Philip Schuyler. She married secondly, in 1800, John Bleecker, by whom she had one daughter who married Cornelius Glen Van Rensselaer, and several sons who died unmarried.

Stephen Van Rensselaer, the eldest son of Stephen Van Rensselaer and Catherine Livingston, was born 1764, in the city of New York, at the house of his grandfather, Philip Livingston. His father having died, the care of his education devolved largely upon Mr. Livingston, who placed him at school in Elizabethtown, N. J.; but the stirring times of the Revolution came on, and Mr. Livingston was driven, with his family, from the city of New York, and took refuge in Kingston. This place possessed a teacher of great scholarship, under whose care the young Stephen Van Rensselaer fitted himself for college. He went to Princeton, under the celebrated Dr. Witherspoon ; but at that time New Jersey was not safe from the incursions of the war, and so the young collegian was removed to Harvard University, Cambridge.

In 1782 he took his degree as Bachelor of Arts, and here it may be mentioned that in 1825, he received from Yale College a diploma conferring upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. Before he was twenty years of age, he married Margaret Schuyler, daughter of General Philip Schuyler. By this marriage there were two children; a daughter, Catherine Schuyler, who died at twelve years of age, and a son Stephen.

The Patroon, after his marriage devoted himself to the care of his estates, and shortly after received his first military commission, as a Major of infantry in 1786, and two years later was promoted to the command of a regiment.

In 1801, Governor Jay directed the cavalry of the State to be formed into a separate corps, divided from the infantry. The Patroon was appointed to the command of this division with two brigades. This commission of Major-General, he bore to his death. In political life he was in the Assembly or Senate from 1788 to 1795. In this latter year, he was elected Lieutenant-Governor with John Jay as Governor, The same election took place in 1798, when he had no opposing candidate.

In 1801, General Van Rensselaer was nominated as candidate for Governor. With what difficulty his acceptance was finally obtained, appears from the publications of the times. Mr. Clinton was brought forward as his opposing candidate. Mr. Clinton was very popular, and deservedly so; and in the midst of the campaign in this State, the election of Mr. Jefferson to the Presidency was announced, and the fate of parties

in this State was decided for a long time to come. Mr. Van Rensselaer was defeated by a small majority of less than four thousand votes. It was at this time, while the election canvas was going on most actively, that the wife of his youth was called from him. By this marriage, he had three children--two sons and one daughter.

In 1802, he married again, his second wife being Cornelia Paterson, only daughter of William Paterson, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the second Governor of the State of New Jersey. In 1810, General Van Rensselaer was appointed one of seven gentlemen, to explore a route for the great internal State improvement--the Erie Canal. After the war with England in 1812, the commission was resumed; and in April 1816, the law was passed for its creation. General Van Rensselaer was President of the Board from 1824 until his death in 1839.

It was in the year 1810, that General Van Rensselaer lost his venerated mother. Several years after the death of her husband the Patroon Stephen Van Rensselaer, Mrs. Van Rensselaer had married Dominie Eilardus Westerlo, Pastor of the Dutch Church, an eminent divine, a fine scholar, and a Hollander of distinguished bearing and attractive manners.

By this marriage, she had one son and daughter. Rensselaer who married Jane Lansing, daughter of Chancellor Lansing of Albany; and Catherine, who married Judge John Woodworth.

In 1812, the war with Great Britain was declared. A requisition was made on Governor Tompkins, to order into immediate service, a considerable body of New York militia; and the Governor selected Major-General Stephen Van Rensselaer for the command. In one month from the date of the call, he was at Lewiston; and in just two months, on the 13th of October, he carried his victorious arms into the enemy's territory, and planted the American flag triumphantly on the heights of Queenston. Unhappily, it was a triumph of short duration. He gained a complete and glorious victory, sufficient if maintained, to have secured the peninsula of Canada for the winter; but a victory, lost as soon as won, by the shameful cowardice and defection of his troops. With a mere handful of men, the heights were carried early in the morning, under the direction of his aide-de-camp and cousin, the brave Col. Solomon Van Rensselaer, and they remained in his possession till late in the day; and could have been easily defended, but for the shameful refusal of his yeoman soldiery to advance farther.

On one side, General Brock had fallen; and on the other, Colonel Van Rensselaer was desperately wounded. The British General Sheaffe offered everything for the comfort of the wounded Colonel. General Van Rensselaer informed Ceneral Sheaffe that he should order a salute to be fired at his camp and at Fort Niagara, on the occasion of the funeral solemnities of the brave General Brock. General Sheaffe thanked him in these words: "I feel too strongly the generous tribute which you propose to pay to my

departed friend and chief, to be able to express the sense I entertain of it. Noble-minded as he was, so would he have done himself."

With this campaign, closed General Van Rensselaer's services in the field.

In 1819 he was elected, by the Legislature, a Regent of the State University, and at the time of his death he was its Chancellor.

In 1823, he first took his seat in Congress, and was continued there by three successive re-elections, retiring in 1829. In February, 1825, the ceremony of an election to the Presidency took place in the House of Representatives. His vote determined that of the delegation from this State in favor of Mr. Adams, and produced the election of Adams on the first ballot.

In 1824, having provided a suitable building at Troy, Rensselaer County, and employed an agent to procure necessary apparatus and library, he requested Dr. Blatchford to act as President of a Board of Trustees whom he named, to inaugurate a school "to qualify teachers to instruct the application of experimental chemistry, philosophy and natural history to agriculture, domestic economy, and the arts and manufactures." In 1826, this school was incorporated and is now known as the Rensselaer Institute.

In 1828, he liberally endowed it, and during fourteen years sustained it at his own expense. After a long and useful life honoured by all who knew him, Stephen Van Rensselaer died at the Manor House, Albany, January 26, 1839, leaving a widow and ten children.

ARTOTYPES BY
E. BIERSTADT, N. Y.

PORTRAITS

OF THE

FOUNDERS AND REGENTS

OF THE

ORPHAN ASYLUM

AT

NYKERK, GUELDERLAND, HOLLAND.

This Asylum was founded in 1638, and the original picture was painted by Breecker in 1645.

Jonkheer Nicolaus Van Delen,
Dr. Albertus Nyenhuys,
Wouter Van Hennekeler,
Ryckert Van Twiller,
Jacob Van Fileun,
Jonkheer Jan Van Rensselaer.

Supposed to be

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER

Son of

HENDRICK VAN RENSSELAER,

and his wife

MARIA PASRAAT.

Born 1637.

From a Painting owned by

Howard Van Rensselaer, Esq. M. D.

(Supposed to be)

ANNA VAN WELY,

Wife of

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER,

and daughter of

JOHAN VAN WELY,

and his wife

LEONORA HAECKINS.

JAN BAPTIST VAN RENSSELAER,

Director of the

MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK,

Son of

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER,

and his wife

ANNA VAN WELY.

From a Painting owned by

Eugene Van Rensselaer, Esq.

JEREMIAS VAN RENSSELAER

Sixteen Years Director of the

MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK,

AND

Third Son of

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER,

and his wife

MARIA VAN COURTLANDT.

Born 1705. Died Unmarried 1745.

From a Painting owned by
Bayard Van Rensselaer, Esq.

(Supposed to be)

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER,

Son of

JOHANNES VAN RENSSELAER,

and his wife

ELIZABETH VAN TWILLER.

Born February 1687. Died at Watervliet.

From a Picture owned by

Mrs Crosby.

(Supposed to be)

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER,

Son of

JOHANNES VAN RENSSELAER,

and his wife

ELIZABETH VAN TWILLER.

Born February 1687. Died at Watervliet.

From a Picture owned by

Mrs Crosby.

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER,

Patroon of the

MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK,

AND

First Lord of the Manor.

Son of

JEREMIAS VAN RENSSELAER,

and his wife

MARIA VAN COURTLANDT.

Born August 24th, 1663. Married October 15th, 1701.
Died 1719.

From a Painting owned by
Howard Van Rensselaer, Esq. M. D.

MARIA VAN COURTLANDT,

Wife of

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER,

and daughter of

STEPHANUS VAN COURTLANDT,

and his wife

GERTRUDE SCHUYLER.

Born 1680. Married October 15th. 1701,
Remarried Dominie John Mellen.

From a Painting owned by
Mrs. Crosby.

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, I.

Patroon of the

MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK,

Son of

KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER,

and his wife

MARIA VAN COURTLANDT.

Born 1707. Married 1729. Died 1747.

ELIZABETH GROESBECK.

From a Painting owned by

Eugene Van Rensselaer, Esq.

ELIZABETH GROESBECK,

Wife of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAR I.

and daughter of

STEPHEN GROESBECK,

and his wife

ELIZABETH LANSING.

Born 1707. Married 1729.

From a Painting owned by
Mrs. Howard Townsend.

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, II.

Patroon of the

MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK,

Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, I.

and his wife

ELIZABETH GROESBECK.

Born 1742. Died at Watervliet October 19th, 1769.

From a Painting owned by

Eugene Van Rensselaer, Esq.

CATHARINE LIVINGSTON

Wife of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, II.

Daughter of

PHILIP LIVINGSTON,

and his wife

CHRYSTIANA TEN BROECK.

Born 1746. Married January 23rd. 1764.

Died April 17th. 1810.

Remarried Dominie Eilardus Westerlo.

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, III.

Patroon of the Manor of Rensselaerswyck.

Major General of the United States Army,

Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, II.

and his wife

CATHARINE LIVINGSTON.

Born in New York, November 1st, 1764.

MARGARET SCHUYLER,

Wife of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, III,

Daughter of

MAJ. GENERAL PHILIP JOHN SCHUYLER,

and his wife

CATHARINE VAN RENSSELAER.

Born 1758. Married 1783. Died 1801.

From a Painting owned by
Mrs Johnson.

PHILIP VAN RENSSELAER.

Mayor of Albany.

Second Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, III.

And his wife

CATHARINE LIVINGSTON.

Born 1766. Died September 25th. 1824.

Married ANNA VAN COURTLANDT, 1787.

From a Picture owned by

Mrs. Berry.

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, III.

From a Picture owned by
William Bayard Van Rensselaer, Esq.

CORNELIA PATERSON

Second wife of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER III

and daughter of

WILLIAM PATERSON

Governor of New Jersey, Judge of the Supreme Court of

The United States.

and his wife

CORNELIA BELL.

Born 1780. Married 1802. Died 1844.

From a miniature painted by Malbone, owned by

Miss Cruger.

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER IV.

From a Picture Painted when twenty one years of age.
Owned by Mrs. Johnson.

CATHARINE SCHUYLER VAN RENSSELAER.

Daughter of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER III.

and his wife

MARGARET SCHUYLER.

Born July 1784. Died April 26th. 1797.

From a Painting owned by

Mrs Barber

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, IV.

Patroon of the

MANOR OF RENSSELAERSWYCK.

Son of

MAJOR GEN. STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER.

and his wife

MARGARET SCHUYLER.

Born 1789. Died 1868.

From a Picture owned by

Eugene Van Rensselaer, Esq.

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, IV.

From a Picture Painted by Alexander.
Owned by Mrs. Townsend.

HARRIET ELIZABETH BAYARD.

Wife of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER IV.

and daughter of

WILLIAM BAYARD,

and his wife

ELIZABETH CORNELL.

Born 1799. Married 1817. Died 1875.

From a miniature owned by

Mrs. Crosby.

CATHARINE VAN RENSSELAER.

Wife of

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS WILKINS.

and daughter of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON.

Born 1803. Married 1830. Died 1874.

From a miniature owned by
Mrs. Turnbull.

CATHARINE VAN RENSSELAER WILKINS.

From a Painting owned by

Mrs. Delafield.

WILLIAM PATERSON VAN RENSSELAER.

Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON.

Born March 6th. 1805. Died November 13th. 1872.

From a miniature owned by
Miss. Catharine Van Rensselaer.

PHILIP S. VAN RENSSELAER.

Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON.

Born October 14th, 1806. Died June 1st. 1871.

From a miniature owned by

Miss. Cruger.

MARY REBECCA TALLMADGE.

Wife of

PHILIP S. VAN RENSSELAER,

and daughter of

GENERAL JAMES TALLMADGE.

Born May 16th, 1817. Married October 7th, 1839.

Died August 3rd, 1872.

From a Painting by Annelli.

Owned by J. Tallmadge Van Rensselaer.

CORTLANDT VAN RENSSELAER. D. D.

Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON.

Born May 25th, 1808. Died July 25th, 1860.

From a miniature Painted by Rogers 1836
Owned by Ledyard Van Rensselaer, Esq M. D.

CATHARINE LEDYARD COGSWELL,

wife of

CORTLANDT VAN RENSSELAER, D. D.

Daughter of

MASON FITCH COGSWELL, M. D.

and his wife

MARY LEDYARD,

Born September 22nd. 1811, Married September 13th. 1836.

Died December 24th. 1882.

From a miniature Painted by Anna Hall,

Owned by Ledyard Van Rensselaer, Esq. M. D.

Colonel and Inspector General

HENRY VAN RENSSELAER.

Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON.

Born May 10th 1810. Died March 23rd 1864.

From a miniature owned by
Mrs. Henry Van Rensselaer.

ELIZABETH RAY KING,

Wife of

HENRY VAN RENSSELAER.

And Daughter of

JOHN ALSOP KING,

Governor of the State of New York,

And his wife

MARY RAY

Born August 17th 1815. Married August 22d 1833

From a miniature painted by Anua Hall

CORNELIA PATERSON VAN RENSSELAER.

Wife of

ROBERT TURNBULL,

and daughter of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON.

Born July 8th. 1812. Married February 16th. 1847.

From a Painting by Annelli.
Owned by Miss Turnbull.

CORNELIA VAN RENSSELAER,

and

EUPHEMIA VAN RENSSELAER.

From a sketch taken in Rome.

Owned by Ledyard Van Rensselaer Esq. M. D.

ALEXANDER VAN RENSSELAER,

Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON.

Born 1814. Died 1878.

EUPHEMIA VAN RENSSELAER.

Wife of

JOHN C. CRUGER,

and daughter of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON

Born Sept. 25th 1816. Married May 2d 1843.

Died May 27th 1888.

WESTERLO VAN RENSSELAER,

Son of

STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER, III.

and his wife

CORNELIA PATERSON.

Born 1820. Died Unmarried 1844.

From a Painting owned by

Mrs Alexander Van Rensselaer.

WESTERLO VAN RENSSELAER.

From a Painting owned by
Mrs Berry.

PHILIP LIVINGSTON

Second Proprietor of the Manor of Livingston

Son of

ROBERT LIVINGSTON,

First Proprietor of the Manor,

And his wife

ALIDA SCHUYLER

Widow of the

Rev. NICHOLAS VAN RENSSELAER.

Born in Albany 1686. Died Feb. 1749.

Married KATHERINE VAN BRUGH,

Daughter of

PETER VAN BRUGH,

and his Wife

SARAH CRUGER,

PHILIP LIVINGSTON, II.

Son of

PHILIP LIVINGSTON, I.

and his wife

KATHARINE VAN BRUGH,

Commonly called "The Signer,"

Born January 15th. 1716. Died June 12th. 1778.

From a Painting in possession of

S. Van Rensselaer Cruger.

CHRISTIANA TEN BROECK.

Wife of

PHILIP LIVINGSTON, II.

From a Painting owned by

Miss Westerlo.

CHRISTIANA TEN BROECK.

Wife of

PHILIP LIVINGSTON, II.

and daughter of

RICHARD TEN BROECK,

Recorder of Albany.

From a Painting in possession of

S. Van Rensselaer Cruger.

MAJ. GEN. PHILIP SCHUYLER

Son of

JOHANNES SCHUYLER,

and his wife

CORNELIA VAN COURTLANDT.

Married

CATHERINE VAN RENSSELAER,

Daughter of

JOHN VAN RENSSELAER,

of the

Claverack Manor.

From a miniature owned by

Mrs Johnson

WILLIAM PATERSON,

Second Governor of New Jersey,

and

Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Son of

RICHARD PATERSON.

Born 1745. Died at Albany September 9th 1806.

Married in 1779,

CORNELIA daughter of JOHN BELL.

VIEW

OF THE

VAN RENSSELAER MANOR HOUSE

AT ALBANY, NEW YORK.

Built 1765. Picture taken about 1839.

VIEW

OF THE

MANOR HOUSE,

From a Photograph taken in 1875

VIEW

OF THE

MANOR HOUSE.

HALL.

LIBRARY.

DRAWING ROOM.

VIEW

OF THE

GARDEN

BELONGING TO THE MANOR HOUSE.

1839.

LC FT. MEADE
0 019 084 543 6